



# The Beacon



**By and for emergency responders**

## THE NDPO HAS A NEW ADDRESS ON THE INTERNET

The NDPO has a new domain name on the Internet. You can now access our website at <http://www.ndpo.gov>.

We redesigned our site and plan to expand the existing information base to improve information sharing with the emergency response community and the general public. If you would like to provide a link from your organization to our site or submit information to be posted, please send an e-mail to our helpline at [ndpo@leo.gov](mailto:ndpo@leo.gov).

## WMD AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INTERNET RESOURCES, PART II

The NDPO is publishing three installments of a comprehensive list of Internet sites compiled by Greg Banner of the Rhode Island Department of Health. The following sites are useful for medical emergency planning and WMD consequence event planning.

### Periodicals & Publications:

Air University Index to Military Periodicals - <http://www.dtic.mil/search97/doc/aulimp/main.htm>  
Biodefense Quarterly, Center for Civilian Biodefense Studies, Johns Hopkins University - <http://www.hopkins-biodefense.org/pages/news/quarter.html>

CB Quarterly, US Army Soldiers and Biological Chemical Command - <http://www.sbccom.apgea.army.mil/RDA/ecbc/quarterly/index.htm>

The Chemical and Biological Information Analysis center Newsletter - <http://www.cbiac.apgea.army.mil/newsletter/intro.html>

CHPPM News Bulletins, US Army Center For Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine - <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/imo/ddb/dmd/DMD/NEWS.HTML>

Dispatch, The Chemical and Biological Arms Control Institute - <http://www.cbaci.org/dispatch.htm>

Emerging Infectious Diseases, CDC, National Center for Infectious Diseases - <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/eid/index.htm>  
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/eid/vol5no4/pdf/v5n4.pdf>  
(July-Aug 1999 Issue – Bioterrorism Articles)

Emergency Information Infrastructure Partnership Newsletter - <http://www.emforum.org/eiip/news.htm>

Emergency Medical Services Magazine <http://www.emsmagazine.com/tocnav.html>

Epidemiology and Infectious Diseases Publications List - <http://141.236.12.246/contact/qdlinks.asp>

FEMA IMPACT newsletter -  
<http://www.fema.gov/about/hqnltr/>

FEMA News Listing -  
<http://www.fema.gov/fema/news.htm>

Journal of Terrorism and Political Violence -  
<http://www.frankcass.com/jnls/tpv.htm>

Medical NBC Defense Information Server News  
<http://www.nbc-med.org/SiteContent/medref.asp?mode=internet>

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, CDC  
<http://www2.cdc.gov/mmwr/>

National Fire and Rescue Magazine -  
<http://www.nfrmag.com/>  
National Institutes of Health Periodical Listing and browser -  
<http://www.nih.gov/health/consumer/index.html>

The Nonproliferation Review, Center for nonproliferation Studies, Monterey Institute of International Studies -  
<http://cns.miis.edu/pubs/npr/index.htm>

The Providence Journal – Health -  
<http://health.projo.com/>

### **Procedures/Protocols/Incident Command Information/Response Resources:**

Bioterrorism Readiness Plan: A Template for Healthcare Facilities, CDC -  
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/Bio/bio.htm>

CDC recommended protocol for BT event notification -  
<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/protocols.asp>

Decontamination Fact Sheet, US Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense -  
<http://chemdef.apgea.army.mil/chemcasu/Decontam.htm>

Decontamination, Commercial Resources -  
<http://www.nbcindustrygroup.com/handbook/decontamination/decontamination.htm#top>

DHHS, Office of Emergency Preparedness planning documents/guides -

[http://ndms.dhhs.gov/CT\\_Program/Response\\_Planning/response\\_planning.html](http://ndms.dhhs.gov/CT_Program/Response_Planning/response_planning.html)

Department of Justice, Office of State and Local Domestic Preparedness Support, Technical Support Help -  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/osldps/ta.htm>

**FEMA, Federal Response Plan**  
<http://www.fema.gov/r-n-r/frp/>

**FEMA Library of reference documents -**  
<http://www.fema.gov/library/lib07.htm>

EPA, The National Response Team's Integrated Contingency Plan Guidance (One Plan)(published June 5, 1996, corrected, June 19, 1996) (Planning document for Chemical/HAZMAT response) -  
<http://www.epa.gov/swercepp/pubs/one-plan.wp5>  
EPA, National Response System  
<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/er/nrs/nrsrrt.htm>

FEMA, State and Local Guide (SLG) 101: Guide for All-Hazard Emergency Operations Planning -  
<http://www.fema.gov/pte/gaheop.htm>

Hospital Procedures for WMD event, JAMA article -  
<http://jama.ama-assn.org/issues/v283n2/full/jsc90100.html>

Metropolitan Medical Response System Planning/Operational Documents  
<http://207.91.118.34/>

The National Response Center, Chemical/HAZMAT spills -  
<http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/index.html>

Outbreak Investigation toolbox, DOD -  
<http://141.236.12.246/outbinv.asp>

Planning Documents, DHHS, OEP, NDMS -  
[http://ndms.dhhs.gov/CT\\_Program/Response\\_Planning/response\\_planning.html](http://ndms.dhhs.gov/CT_Program/Response_Planning/response_planning.html)

Rapid Response Information System (RRIS), FEMA -  
<http://www.rris.fema.gov/>

US Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command Hotline -  
[http://dp.sbcom.army.mil/fs/dp\\_hotline.html](http://dp.sbcom.army.mil/fs/dp_hotline.html)

## APIC BIOTERRORISM PLAN

The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), prepared a document entitled "Bioterrorism Readiness Plan: A Template for Healthcare Facilities." The plan, which can be downloaded from APIC's homepage on the Internet at [www.apic.org/html/educ/readinow.html](http://www.apic.org/html/educ/readinow.html), serves as a reference document and initial template to facilitate preparation of bioterrorism readiness plans for individual healthcare institutions.

The plan outlines the steps necessary for responding to the biological agents most likely to be employed in any future biological attack, such as smallpox, botulism toxin, anthrax, and plague.

The Bioterrorism Readiness Plan provides information on the unique characteristics, management, and follow-up appropriate for each of these biological agents. It covers the description, etiology, and mode of transmission of each agent and the necessary isolation precautions, patient management, and post-discharge planning associated with each. The document also provides details regarding post-exposure management, prophylaxis, and decontamination consistent with each pathogen; laboratory support and diagnosis; and protocols for the cleaning, disinfection, and sterilization of equipment and environment. The plan outlines patient/visitor/public health precautions, and contains some discussion of the psychological and mental health aspects of a bioterrorism event. Included in the plan are useful appendices covering healthcare worker exposure fact sheets; relevant web sites; and other necessary information.

The format is easily adapted to suit individual needs of institutions, a "cookie cutter" approach to creating specific bioterrorism readiness plans.

## NDPO SETS CHAT SESSION FOR JULY

The next NDPO chat session on Law Enforcement Online (LEO) will be on Tuesday, **July 25<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m., EST**. The tentative subject for this session will involve bioterrorism preparedness and the health community. The sponsoring organization and special guest are to be announced.

### Chat Instructions

To participate in the chat session, you must be a registered LEO user and have Microsoft Chat or Netscape Chat loaded on your computer. While in the chat program, type "chat.leo.gov" in the box labeled Server and click the circle next to "Go to Chat Room," then type #ndpo. Remember, you must be dialed into LEO to use Microsoft Chat with LEO. Please enter the chat room as close to 2 p.m. as possible.

Click the tab labeled Personal Info located at the top of the window. Enter your name and a nickname. Enter your LEO e-mail address and any other information you wish to include in your personal profile. Click OK. You will now be in the NDPO chat room. Your name will appear in the box on the right-hand part of your computer screen, along with the other participants in the chat session. Simply type your question or comments in the space provided at the bottom of your computer screen.

You may wish to test the chat software prior to the session. If you have technical problems, you should contact LEO Tech Support at 1-888-334-4536.

**If you are an emergency responder and would like to know more about LEO and the NDPO's Common Communication Link, please e-mail us at [ndpo@leo.gov](mailto:ndpo@leo.gov)**

## NDPO Q & A

The following questions have appeared on the NDPO's helpline. As an information sharing initiative, *The Beacon* staff is publishing the questions and answers for the emergency response community.

**Q: How do I get on The Beacon mailing list?**

A: If you provide the NDPO with your e-mail address, we can add you to our List Server. You may also find *The Beacon* on our website at [www.ndpo.gov](http://www.ndpo.gov).

**Q: I am exploring the possibility of purchasing equipment for my department, how do I find information on Federal equipment grants?**

A: The Office for State and Local Domestic Preparedness Support (OSLDPS), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), handles equipment grant matters. The OJP liaison in our office can be reached at 202-324-9034. OSLDPS main number is 202-305-9887.

**Q: I saw an article referring to the NDPO's Common Communication Link. How do I sign up for it?**

A: To sign up for the CCL, you must be a member of the emergency response/public safety community (including federal agencies involved with WMD preparedness). For more information contact the NDPO at [ndpo@leo.gov](mailto:ndpo@leo.gov).

**Q: I am interested in career opportunities with the NDPO. Should I send a resume to the office?**

A: At this time, the NDPO does not have positions available. In the future, we will be hiring a company to provide contract support. Once this company has been hired, it will advertise the available positions within the NDPO. If you have a resume, you may send it

to the NDPO at the address on the last page of *The Beacon*.

**Q: I received your Special Bulletin #6, and would like to receive the previous five bulletins. Where can I find them?**

A: The bulletins are available for downloading on our Common Communication Link. If you are a member of the emergency response community, the NDPO can provide copies via e-mail.

**Q: I would like to acquire federal training for WMD. Where is that information located?**

A: You can find that information at the SBCCOM website at <http://dp.sbccom.army.mil>.

**Q: Is the NDPO's Blueprint was available to the general public?**

A: The Blueprint is available on our Internet page at [www.ndpo.gov](http://www.ndpo.gov).

**Q: I would like to request information regarding the establishment of your office. Did the establishment require the passing of any type of legislation or Congressional act?**

A: The NDPO was established by the Attorney General in October, 1998, based on the recommendations from the Stakeholders Conference in August, 1998. For background information, please see our web page at [www.ndpo.gov](http://www.ndpo.gov). The NDPO was formally approved by Congress in November, 1999.

**Editor's Note:** Items published in *The Beacon* are for informational purposes for the emergency response community. The material submitted does not necessarily imply review and acceptance by the interagency community represented at the NDPO.

## **NDPO HELPLINE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS CAUSE SERVICE DELAYS**

We apologize to the emergency response community for any inconvenience that the recent plague of computer problems and service delays caused users of our NDPO helpline. We are still working on several hardware issues and hope to have the system running efficiently as soon as possible.

Additionally, because of the hardware problems, our staff must rebuild the e-mail list server to ensure timely delivery to our *Beacon* subscribers and information recipients.

Please continue to use the helpline at [ndpo@leo.gov](mailto:ndpo@leo.gov), and the NDPO staff will answer your inquiry as soon as possible.

### **NDPO CONFERENCE SUPPORT**

NDPO staff members will attend or present at the following conferences:

**5/23** – Terrorism Consequence Forum, Puerto Rico

**6/7** – Technologies for Public Safety in Critical Incident Response Conference 2000 (check out our information booth), Denver, CO

**6/15** – Armed Forces Journal conference and exhibition group, Washington, DC

## **NDPO NEWSGROUPS FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS**

The NDPO has created eight newsgroups on the Law Enforcement Online (LEO) system. The newsgroups are categorized as: WMD Training, WMD Equipment, WMD Planning, WMD Exercises, WMD Health and Medical, WMD Information Sharing, and a WMD Equipment Trading Post. The NDPO also created a newsgroup for Missouri Public Health personnel.

Newsgroups are tremendous information sharing tools that promote the exchange of ideas on a variety of WMD preparedness topics. For example, you can post a specific question about equipment on the WMD Equipment newsgroup. Emergency response professionals nationwide can then answer your question and provide valuable insight into WMD-related equipment.

To access the newsgroups, you must be a member of the NDPO's Common Communication Link (CCL), which is hosted by LEO. If you are not a member of the CCL and wish to receive an application, please send an e-mail to our helpline at [ndpo@leo.gov](mailto:ndpo@leo.gov).

If you are a member of the CCL and would like to subscribe to the newsgroups, please ensure that you have newsgroups set up on your web browser e-mail system. Messages are posted in the same way an e-mail message is sent, but instead of being addressed to an individual, the message is addressed to the newsgroup. To set up your newsgroup subscription list, you may click on the "Newsgroups" link on the LEO Homepage. This link will provide detailed instructions to set up newsgroups on both Microsoft Internet Explorer and Netscape Communicator. **The NDPO is soliciting your ideas for additional newsgroups on the CCL.**

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*The Beacon* is published monthly for members of the emergency response community. Please send articles, comments, feedback, and letters to the Information Sharing Team at the address listed above.